See Page 2 for A. F. of L.'s Trade Union Organization Campaign

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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"When the time for action arrives, stop thinking and go in.—Andrew Jackson.

WHOLE NO. 1088. WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1932 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 21, NO. 49.

American Federation of Labor Conference Petitions President Hoover And Congress for Direct Relief of Nation's Army of Unemployed

Over 100 Labor Leaders Declare Plight of Idle National Emergency

Back the La Follette-Costigan Bill for $375,000,000 Federal Relief—Local Agencies at Their Limit, While Men, Women and Children Suffer from Hunger and Cold—Right to Work and 5-Day Week Demanded.

Washington, Feb. 13.—A strong appeal for Federal aid to the unemployed, including the prompt enactment of the La Follette-Costigan bill appropriating $375,000,000 for relief purposes, was presented to President Hoover and Congress by over one hundred leaders of organized labor, on February 9, following an all-day conference at the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor.

Headed by William Green, president of the Federation, the labor representatives marched from the conference table in the A. F. of L. headquarters to the White House.

President Hoover received the petition without comment.

From the White House the labor representatives went to the Capitol and presented Labor's program to Vice President Curtis and Speaker Garner, who expressed their sympathy with the appeal and said they would bring it to the attention of the Senate and House of Representatives.

The Labor Conference consisted of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor and representatives of the affiliated national and international unions. It was convened by President Green with the approval of the Executive Council to consider the unemployment situation, anti-injunction legislation, and other Federal labor measures.

$375,000,000 Federal Fund Asked

On the unemployment crisis the appeal adopted by the conference declared:

That a real national emergency has been reached.

That the number of unemployed was constantly increasing with more than 8,300,000 idle in January.

That local relief agencies could not cope with the situation. That adequate relief is not being supplied.

That men, women and children, "hungry and cold and undernourished," were deprived of food, warmth, and shelter.

That "the entire resources of the nation must be brought into action in order to meet and deal adequately with this emergency."

In this crisis the conference appealed to Congress "for an immediate appropriation of an adequate sum to meet the demands of the existing economic situation," and specifically urged the prompt enactment of the La Follette-Costigan bill appropriating $375,000,000 for relief purposes.

The appeal emphasized Federal appropriations of billions of dollars to aid banks, corporations and business institutions, and declared that the contrast would be depressing if Congress should fail to help promptly the hungry and needy.

"The masses of the people," the appeal said, "will feel that Congress has utterly failed to measure up to its duties and responsibilities if, while in session, as it now is, during a period of great national emergency, it fails to appropriate funds to supply food and shelter to millions of suffering, starving people."

In addition to direct Federal appropriations for unemployment relief the conference stressed the following proposals to remedy the unemployment situation:

Immediate establishment of the five-day week in public and private industry.

Creation of "made work" by all business executives, professional men and family heads.

Retention of boys and girls in schools.

Federal Labor Legislation

In the field of Federal labor legislation the appeal asked for the speedy enactment of the following measures:

The Norris anti-injunction bill.

Five-day week for Government employes.

Federal contributions to State old-age pension legislation.

The King bill to deport alien seamen.

The payment of the prevailing wage rate by all contractors engaged in Government work.

The development of a public works program to prevent a recurrence of unemployment.

The Davis-Kelly bill to provide for the regulation and control of the coal industry.

The modification of the Volstead Act to permit the manufacture of 2.75 alcoholic content beer.

Increased income taxes in the higher brackets.

Increased inheritance taxes.

Legislation supported by organizations representing Government employes.

The text of the appeal to the Federal Government for economic and legislative relief submitted by the Labor Conference follows:

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

A real national emergency has been reached.

It calls for profound consideration and the application of practical remedies.

The destructive consequences of wide-spread, continuous increasing unemployment have reached an acute stage.

Hunger and Distress

Relief of a most definite and adequate nature must be supplied in order to relieve hunger, distress and human suffering.

The economic causes responsible for the creation of this situation have been operating for several years.

As a result industry is to a great extent paralyzed.

The financial structure of the Nation is greatly impaired, credit facilities have become inadequate, confidence has been destroyed and a state of mind bordering on hysteria prevails throughout the land.

Workers Suffer Most

The great working population of the Nation and those dependent upon them have suffered most of all.

Financial losses and impairment in credit values are not as disastrous in effect as the losses which millions of working men and women have sustained as a result of unemployment.

Life and living, in the fullest sense of these terms, depend absolutely upon the exercise of the right to work and upon the enjoyment of the opportunity to earn an income required to maintain a decent American standard of living.

Purpose of Conference

Because the representatives of organized labor are thoroughly conscious of the acute suffering and distress which prevails in all communities, we have assembled in Washington, the Capital City of the Nation.

Over Eight Million Jobless

The gravity of the situation made such a deep impression upon the Executive Council and the representatives of the American Federation of Labor that they deemed it imperative to meet, consider the emergency which has arisen and give expression to the deep feeling of the unemployed numbering more than eight million, that work opportunities be created and that relief, so urgently needed, be immediately supplied.

Conference Represents Labor

We meet, therefore, as representatives of Labor, clothed with authority to speak for many millions of organized workers affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and to speak for other voiceless workers who, because of their disorganized state, have no medium of expression.

Unemployed Without Resources

The workers who have suffered much and who have endured hardships and distress for several years have exhausted their savings, have reached the limit of their resources and are facing the future with impaired morale and physical deterioration.

Labor Contributes Millions

Many members of organized labor who are working have been and are contributing a large percentage of their earnings to assist their fellow-workers who are unemployed.

Others are sharing the very limited amount of work available.

In these ways many millions of dollars have been contributed by the members of organized labor toward helping their associate fellow-workers who have been unemployed during the last two years.

They will continue to render all assistance possible and to do all that lies within their power to relieve human distress and intense suffering.

But the need is too great.

Local Relief Inadequate

The number of unemployed is constantly increasing.

More than eight million, three hundred thousand were suffering from enforced idleness during the month of January.

Local relief agencies have found the task too great.

Adequate relief cannot be and is not being supplied.

Men, women and children are hungry, cold and undernourished.

They are appealing for food, warmth and shelter.

Children Suffer Hunger and Cold

The tragic feature of this uncivilized, inhuman condition is reflected in the fact that millions of children are suffering from hunger and cold every day and that many thousands are unable to attend school because of a lack of food, clothing and shoes.

The entire resources of the Nation must be brought into action and must be utilized in order to meet and deal adequately with this emergency.

The local communities, the states and the Nation must all do their part, responding in full measure to the demands of the occasion.

Misery Ignores State Lines

It does not seem reasonable for the Federal Government to deny relief to men, women and children suffering from unemployment when it is clearly evident that local and state relief agencies are unable to meet the requirements of the situation.

Those who are hungry and are appealing for food cannot draw the fine line of distinction between relief supplied by local and state relief agencies and relief supplied by the Federal Government.

They know that every community is a part of our national life and as such all are a part of the Nation's family.

The indistinct lines which separate communities and states are not discernible in the midst of nation-wide misery and woe.

This fact was recognized during the period of war emergency and it should be recognized during the existing emergency.

Federal Relief Necessary

It is upon this basis that we appeal to the Congress of the United States for an immediate appropriation of an adequate sum sufficient to meet the demands of the existing economic situation.

We make this appeal in the name and in behalf of the hungry, suffering men, women and children whose plight is directly traceable to unemployment.

La Follette-Costigan Bill

We urge the enactment of the Costigan-La Follette Bill appropriating $375,000,000 for relief purposes immediately and for such other appropriations as circumstances and occasions may require.

The masses of the people will feel that Congress has utterly failed to measure up to its duties and responsibilities if, while in session as it now is, during a period of great national emergency, it fails to appropriate funds to supply food, clothing and shelter to millions of suffering, starving people.

Billions Given to Business

The billions of dollars which Congress has provided for the purpose of aiding banks, corporations and business institutions will stand out in sharp, depressing contrast if Congress fails to promptly help the needy and the hungry.

The huge sums thus appropriated to aid Capital cannot and will not feed and clothe hungry people.

Surely Congress cannot afford to subject itself to the charge that it speedily appropriated billions for Capital and nothing for the hungry.

Human Needs Come First

Human values and human needs should be given first rather than secondary consideration.

No explanation can be made to hungry people and their sympathetic friends which would satisfy them as to why Congress voted billions to aid banks and corporations and would refuse to appropriate even a moderate sum to be used for the purpose of assisting the states and communities in supplying food, shelter and clothing to patriotic, loyal citizens who are suffering from unemployment.

We do not consider the appropriation of Federal relief to supply food, clothing and shelter in this great emergency to millions of starving men, women and children as a dole.

Distress in Large Cities

The local relief agencies in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Cleveland and Detroit have found the task too great.

For instance, in New York 250,000 families are in immediate need of relief while 100,000 are receiving assistance.

In Philadelphia the number dependent on relief has risen from 3,000 in December, 1930, to 43,000 in December, 1931.

Philadelphia estimates its need at $6,000,000 beyond that raised and there is no more money in sight.

Funds derived from private sources will be exhausted by May 1.

In Chicago relief funds will be exhausted by the 15th of February.

Eviction cases in that city average 250 per day.

In Cleveland the local relief funds are practically exhausted while the need for help has substantially increased.

Millions Suffer in Isolated Towns

While the larger cities are overwhelmed with the problem of meeting minimum relief requirements and have funds raised for that specific purpose there are millions living in isolated towns and villages remotely situated from the larger cities who have no organized relief agencies to assist them.

Community Chests Inadequate

Only about 40,000,000 persons, or 32 per cent of our population, live within reach of relief organizations such as Community Chests.

Sixty-eight per cent live in small towns or country districts where no organized relief agencies exist with the exception of the county poor boards.

Needy Outside of Relief Zones

There are some 60,000,000 persons residing outside the zones where relief agencies exist.

The vast majority of them are working people.

Many of those living in these isolated sections reside in mining districts, oil field communities, textile mill villages and other small villages where the banks have failed, where small industries have collapsed and where the need for help is intense.

Protest Meetings and Hunger Marches

A significant development of the very serious situation which exists is clearly evident in the larger cities where large crowds of unemployed accumulate, where protest meetings are held, in the hunger marches which have been and are taking place, in the violence which occurs, in crime and in the accumulating wave of discontent, and social unrest which is sweeping over the country.

Plight of Millions Is Shocking

Therefore, we, the representatives of Labor, fully informed of these deplorable conditions, receiving reports from our personal representatives who are in these sections and having first-hand information with reference to the economic and social needs of working people, appeal for help and assistance for them as well as for those who live in the larger cities.

The plight of these millions of people is shocking.

Action Means Imperative

It is steadily and rapidly growing worse and unless some drastic means are taken to alleviate the situation the Nation will suffer heavily in the destruction of physical, moral and mental values.

Congress Should Give Relief

It is our solemn judgment that the time has arrived when the Congress of the United States should arise to the occasion, respond to the appeals of the hungry, assist in feeding men, women and children during this great emergency, just as our Nation did when the cry for help went from starving people across the sea.

TRADE UNION LEADERS WHO ATTENDED THE LABOR CONFERENCE

The following members of the A. F. of L. Executive Council and representatives of National and International Unions attended the Labor Conference, February 9, 1932, at the Headquarters of the American Federation of Labor:

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

William Green, President
Frank Morrison, Secretary
Martin F. Ryan, Treasurer
Frank Duffy, First Vice President
T. A. Rickert, Second Vice President
Matthew Woll, Third Vice President
James Wilson, Fourth Vice President
John Coefield, Fifth Vice President
Arthur O. Wharton, Sixth Vice President
Joseph N. Weber, Seventh Vice President
C. M. Bryson, Eighth Vice President

REPRESENTATIVES OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL UNIONS

Jos. A. Mullaney, International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers.
A. A. Myrup, Chas. F. Hohmann, Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union of America.
J. C. Shanessy, Anthony Merlino, Journeymen Barbers' International Union.
John M. Tobin, International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers.
J. A. Franklin, W. A. Calvin, International Brotherhood of Boiler Makers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America.
John B. Haggerty, J. B. Prewitt, International Brotherhood of Bookbinders.
John Sullivan, A. J. Kugler, Joseph Obergfell, International Union of the United Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers of America.
Harry C. Bates, Thomas A. Lane, John J. Gleeson, Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' Internation Union of America.
Wm. H. Pope, International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers.
I. M. Ornburn, G. W. Perkins, Cigar Makers' International Union of America.
Leo E. George, Thos. F. Flaherty, John M. Torka, National Federation of Post Office Clerks.
L. S. Lankton, Order of Sleeping Car Conductors.
James J. Doyle, Coopers' International Union of North America.
Theodore Quets, Diamond Workers' Protective Union of America.
C. L. Rosemund, International Federation of Technical Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen's Unions.
Joseph S. McDonagh, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of America.
Edward Smith, International Union of Elevator Constructors.
John Possehl, F. A. Fitzgerald, International Union of Operating Engineers.
Edward J. Volz, Matthew Woll, International Photo-Engravers' Union of North America.
N. A. James, Robert J. Tormey, International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers.
Albert Adamski, United Garment Workers of America.
James Maloney, Harry Jenkins, Glass Bottle Blowers' Association of the United States and Canada.
Michael F. Greene, Chas. W. Cullen, United Hatters of North America.
J. V. Moreschi, A. Persion, International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers' Union of America.
Edward Flore, Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Beverage Dispensers' International Alliance.
M. F. Tighe, Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers.
Wm. J. McSorley, Wm. J. McMurphy, International Union of Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers.
W. E. Hynn, John C. Saylor, United Leather Workers' International Union.
Edw. J. Gainor, National Association of Letter Carriers.
Geo. F. Klinker, Joseph F. Weise, L. C. Boyer, E. D. Landwehr, National Federation of Rural Letter Carriers.
John R. Owens, International Longshoremen's Association.
H. J. Carr, E. C. Davison, Fred Hewitt, International Association of Machinists.
E. E. Milliman, A. F. Stout, Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes.
Stephen C. Hogan, International Association of Marble, Slate and Stone Polishers, Rubbers and Sawyers, Tile and Marble Setters Helpers and Terrazzo Helpers.
John J. Scully, National Organization Masters, Mates and Pilots of America.
John J. Hynes, Sheet Metal Workers' International Association.
John L. Lewis, Philip Murray, Thos. Kennedy, United Mine Workers of America.
M. J. Keough, International Molders' Union of North America.
H. C. Fremming, Oil Field, Gas Well and Refinery Workers of America.
I. P. Lindelof, Wm. J. Gallagher, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America.
Matthew J. Burns, International Brotherhood of Paper Makers.
M. J. Colleran, Operative Plasterers' International Association of the United States and Canada.
Thos. R. Burke, Frank J. Kennedy, United Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada.
James M. Duffy, John D. McGillivray, Joseph Smith, National Brotherhood of Operative Potters.
Geo. L. Berry, Jos. C. Orr, International Printing Pressmen's and Assistants' Union of North America.
J. H. Wandor, International Stereotypers, Die Stampers and Engravers' Union of North America.
John P. Burke, International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers of the United States and Canada.
Wm. B. Fitzgerald, L. D. Bland, Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes of America.
Andrew Furuseth, International Seamen's Union of America.
Richard Walsh, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Moving Picture Machine Operators of the United States and Canada.
Winfield T. Keegan, International Stereotypers and Electrotypers' Union of North America.
Joseph Blasey, Journeymen Stonecutters' Association of North America.
W. M. Running, Journeymen Tailors' Union of America.
Selma Borchardt, American Federation of Teachers.
Daniel J. Tobin, John M. Gillespie, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America.
L. P. Clifton, Order of Railroad Telegraphers.
Thomas F. McMahon, United Textile Workers of America.
E. Lewis Evans, Tobacco Workers' International Union.
Frank Morrison, International Typographical Union.
M. J. McDonough, Building Trades Department, American Federation of Labor.
Jas. O'Connell, John P. Frey, Metal Trades Department, American Federation of Labor.
J. J. Manning, Union Label Trades Department, American Federation of Labor.

Congress Provided Billions for Business; Must Not Refuse to Help Nation's Hungry

Wage Cutting Must Stop—Anti-Injunction Law Asked to Protect Labor's Rights to Organize—Legislation Urged for Old-Age Pensions, Deportation of Chinese Seamen, Prevailing Wage Rate, Public Works Program, Coal Industry Regulation, Protection of Oil Industry, Volstead Act Modification, Higher Income and Inheritance Taxes, and 5-Day Week and Other Measures for Federal Employes.

The heart yearnings and unquenchable desires of the workers are reflected in the appeal of the masses of the people for the exercise of the right to work.

They prefer work and the enjoyment of opportunities to earn a living to being supplied from any source or sources whatsoever.

Employment and the development of opportunities to secure work are of more importance to them than the appropriation of relief.

Working people are thinking in more advanced terms.

Industry's Despotism Challenged

They no longer concede to industry the right to provide work at will or to force millions of people into unemployment.

They hold that the right to work is a fundamentally sacred right and propose to fight earnestly for the universal acceptance of this humane principle.

Shorter Work Day and Work Week

Instead of forcing working people into idleness during periods of economic recession and depression, such adjustment in the number of days worked per week and the number of hours worked per day must take place so that all may share equitably in the amount of work available.

Work security must be substituted for anxiety and unemployment.

Industry's Obligation to Labor

The management of industry, which has failed so miserably during this long-continued period of unemployment, must rise to new heights and assume new positions.

They must realize that industry has an obligation to assist and to do all that lies within their power to relieve human distress and intense suffering.

They must realize that industry has failed miserably during this long-continued period of unemployment and must rise to new heights and assume new positions.

Economic Planning to Prevent Unemployment

A balanced system based upon intelligent planning, operating in such a way as to provide employment security, must be substituted for the unscientific and uneconomic methods now being pursued by industrial management.

But this plan and this policy must be considered in relation to permanent relief policies. The needs of the moment and the urgency of the existing situation press for immediate solution and action.

We reiterate the demands of Labor for the application of constructive work programs and policies in order to extend and broaden work opportunities for millions who are idle.

We propose:

Five-Day Week Demanded

1. The immediate establishment of the five-day work week in both private and public industry.

Wage Cutting Must Stop

2. A cessation of the wage-cutting policy which was relentlessly pursued during the year 1931 and which has resulted in a destruction of mass buying power and the creation of fear and distrust in the minds of millions of workingmen and women. The soundness of this position is quickly recognized when we consider the fact that the reduction in wage-earners, with a corresponding reduction in buying power, amounted to $11,000,000,000 for the year 1931 as compared with the year 1929.

Create Work Opportunities

3. To create work opportunities by every feasible and effective employing at least one more employe and by industrial enterprises adding to their working forces in proportion to the number now employed. Every professional person and heads of households needing employment or part-time employment to as many people as possible. Every community to undertake to develop and carry on additional work.

Keep Children in School

4. All efforts possible be made to keep boys and girls in school and that local, public-service opportunities be provided for those finishing school.

Labor's Cooperation Pledged

The organized labor movement, through the American Federation of Labor, will cooperate in full measure with other organizations in carrying forward a nation-wide campaign for the realization of these objectives.

We have joined with other groups in the realization of this praiseworthy purpose.

We shall continue to give all the support possible to nation-wide organized movements formed for the purpose of creating work opportunities and of stimulating industrial activity.

Five-Day Week for Federal Employes

We specifically recommend that the Federal Government take immediate steps to establish the five-day work week for Government employes.

Such action on the part of the National Government would very greatly influence the management and owners of private industry.

We are certain that the time has arrived when this action should be taken for we are convinced that the establishment of the five-day work week will become universal within the very near future.

Federal Wage Cuts Protested

Furthermore, we protest against any reduction in the salaries and wages of Government employes.

As representatives of Labor we feel fully justified in assuming this strong position both from an economic and moral point of view.

The Government, a large employer of labor, should set an example by maintaining wage standards commensurate with the requirements of American citizenship.

Defense of Living Standards Asked

The Government, representing all the people cannot afford to join with those who are determined to lower the living standards of the people through forced reductions in income with a corresponding loss in morale and purchasing power.

The Government would lose more than it would gain through such action.

The maintenance of wage standards on the part of the Federal Government will serve in a most valuable way to protect and preserve corresponding standards established by millions of working men and women employed in private industry.

(Continued on Page Two)

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1932

Issued from the Headquarters of the American Federation of Labor, A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

The American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service was authorized by the 1919 Convention of the American Federation of Labor.

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor inaugurated the Service on April 8, 1911.

A. F. OF L. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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Employers Should End Unemployment

The scourge of unemployment does not end its disastrous results with the dwarfed lives of the eight million and more jobless workers and their millions of dependents. It extends to every line of business activity through the decreased pay rolls. The wages loss automatically shrinks the market for every commodity and all services.

Labor has adequate remedies for this economic dislocation. Labor demands that those who own and control our industrial, commercial, and financial establishments stabilize the situation on the basis of employment for every employable person. This can only be done through the shortening of the work day and the work week. It has been statistically ascertained that the universal seven-hour day and the five-day week would make work for all of the eight million unemployed. They have a right to this work. But because those who own and control our business establishments own and control work opportunities, the moral right of the jobless to jobs may be denied, and up to the present has been denied by our industrial, financial, and commercial dictators.

Labor's further remedy for the economic dislocation is the demand that the owners and controllers of our business life maintain wage payments sufficiently large to turn all workers into large consumers, with larger purchasing power and still shorter hours as increased efficiency make them possible.

Labor's plan for economic stabilization also does away with the need for either unemployment insurance or unemployment reserves.

In fact, Labor cannot contemplate a permanent system of production with one group of workers employed full time with high living standards and another group totally unemployed with living standards based on either near-starvation unemployment insurance, unemployment reserves, or charity relief.

Labor refuses to visualize a system of production operated either solely or largely for the benefit of those who own it. Labor believes that the capitalist system can be humanized for the benefit of society as a whole. Labor declares that the first step in this humanization is the adoption of a work week and work day short enough to put all the jobless to work and the adjustment of the work day in the future so as to provide jobs for all the employable.

Labor admits that this policy is a revolutionary one. But it is a peaceable revolution that will stand out in the annals of mankind as one of the great forward steps taken in the interest of society as a whole.

A tremendous responsibility now rests with the industrial autocrats who, through their ownership of industry and consequently of the opportunities to work, have the power to decree shorter hours of labor and end unemployment.

Coal Mine Accidents

Coal mining continued to take its toll in human lives in 1931, according to the report of the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

The miners produced 438,690,000 tons. In connection with mining this quantity, 2,450 men were killed by accidents. This amounts to one miner killed for every 300,000 tons of coal. In 1930, one miner was killed for every 250,000 tons mined.

Although the figures for 1931 represent an increase of about 40,000 tons per fatality over the previous year, it is admitted by those familiar with the situation that most coal mine accidents, fatal and non-fatal, are caused by the refusal of employers to install and administer up-to-date and efficient accident prevention systems and devices.

Rock-dusting of mines is claimed by experts to be an almost sure preventive of mine explosions, but despite efforts of the Federal and State Mine Bureaus there are many mine owners and managers who do not use this recognized type of accident prevention.

In the last analysis, the question of profit seems still to dominate the officials of many mining companies. If they can be persuaded that it costs less to prevent accidental deaths and mutilations, they will readily install accident prevention devices, systems, and regulations. "Otherwise they will permit their employees to be mutilated and killed.

This opinion is confirmed by the comment made by Mr. Scott Turner, director of the U. S. Bureau of Mines, on the awakening of the public and of mine officials to the importance of mine safety. **Mr. Turner says that one of the elements in this awakening is a growing realization on the part of mine executives of the possibilities of greater economy in production through the prevention of accidents.**

Mr. Turner's observation is an indictment, undoubtedly deserved, of the jungle psychology which animates some mine operators in their efforts to secure "greater economy in production" by an employ of a phrase to describe greater profits.

If Labor controlled the coal mines, the safety of the miners would be the most important thing in mining policy. Regardless of whether the cost of production of the miners from accidents would be guaranteed. Regardless of whether profits were large or small or nothing, Labor would see to it that every dollar necessary to safeguard the miners from mutilation or death would be expended.

It is very regrettable that many mine owners and mine operators continue to regard their employes as of so little importance that increased profits must be exhibited to them before they will consent to apply the principles of mine safety.

ESTATE TAX PROPOSED TO YIELD HALF BILLION

Congressman Ramseyer Joins with AFL to Tax Large Fortunes and Check Wealth Concentration.

Washington, Feb. 12.—Representative Ramseyer of Iowa recommended an estate tax to produce $500,000,000 in revenue in the hearings held by the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

He said an estate tax by the most equitable one developed and tends to check the strong tendency toward concentration of the Nation's wealth in the hands of a few who did little or nothing to earn it.

Supported by A. F. of L.

The estate tax was strongly stressed by the AFL convention of the Federation of Labor, and urged by William Green, president of the Federation in a recent statement to the chairman of the Committee.

In support of his position in favor of a heavier estate tax, Representative Ramseyer said that about one-fifth of the national wealth, or $40,000,000 to $9,000,000,000, devolves each year. His tax plan, he claimed, would yield about $300,000,000 more for the Federal Government than does the present estate tax.

British Tax Three Times Larger

If rates proportionate to the British estate taxes were imposed, the revenue would be about $1,800,000,000 a year.

He said he presented his plan as a permanent source of revenue, not an emergency measure. He urged that the estate tax go at least as low as $50,000 estates, with rates ranging from 1 per cent to 45 per cent.

CHICAGO'S DESTITUTE INCREASE TO 500,000

Chicago, Feb. 13—In Chicago the destitution resulting from unemployment is almost beyond description. The Joint Emergency Relief Fund of Cook County, of which Victor Olander, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, is a member, in a statement on the situation, said:

"In Chicago, more than 120,000 families, consisting of about 500,000 individuals, are now on the relief rolls. The number is steadily increasing. Approximately 12,000 homeless and destitute men are being housed in the shelters provided by the Joint Emergency Relief Fund.

Relief Funds Too Small

"In the drive for funds last October and November, a total of $10,500,000 was provided for by private subscription, much of which was in the form of pledges payable in the future, and the private one day's pay a month to the fund.

"It was hoped that this would suffice through the Winter, but the cry for help has become so great that it became necessary to ask for the $5,000,000 in advance of the months for which they were due.

Landlords Evict Jobless

"A few weeks ago the amount available had dwindled to the point where it became necessary for the relief agencies to cease paying rent for the destitute, with the result that evictions throughout the city began to increase rapidly.

"It is surely time for action by the Salvation Army and the Volunteers of America, the bulletin points out, have regular departments for collecting discarded clothing, rehabilitating it and selling it at normal prices.

Labor Petitions U. S. Government For Jobless Relief and Demands Measure Outlawing Injunctions

(Continued from Page One)

ANTI-INJUNCTION LEGISLATION

The importance of the legislative demands of organized labor runs parallel with that of the unemployment situation.

In behalf of unnumbered millions of American working men and women, we solemnly petition Congress to grant the needed legislative relief which is so earnestly sought.

Labor Injunction Unjust

For years the minds of American working people have been filled with a keen sense of injustice because corporations have resorted to the wrongful use of injunctions in labor controversies.

American working people, as the people of no other nation, have suffered mentally and materially through what they firmly believe was the unjust application of the injunctive process.

Right to Organize Nullified

The right to organize and to function is devoid of meaning if, through the use of the writ of injunction, men and women are prohibited from organizing for mutual helpfulness and from exercising their economic strength and power by persuading fellow workers to join with them in a common cause.

Men and women smart under a keen sense of injustice when they become the victims of sweeping, prohibitive injunction orders and contempt proceedings.

Public opinion slowly responded to the constant appeals of organized labor for the enactment of injunction relief legislation. It began to understand that there was fully justified in the protests it made against the abuse of the writ of injunction in labor controversies.

Political Parties Promise Injunction Relief

As a result the two great political parties included in their platforms a pledge both to outlaw and to support injunction relief legislation which, in effect, would free Labor from the unjust restraints which had been placed upon it.

Now, without further delay, Labor feels justified in calling upon the members of Congress to redeem their party pledges, to show good faith through the enactment of injunction relief legislation at this session of Congress.

Plea for Norris Bill

The American Federation of Labor is supporting an injunction relief measure introduced by Senator Norris and designated Senate Bill No. 935.

The same measure has been introduced in the House of Representatives.

In appealing for the enactment of this character of legislation Labor is not asking for a privileged status.

We are not seeking to exempt Labor from the provisions of any law.

We are asking that Labor be given an equal status with other citizens and that the restraining power of the government shall apply to Labor only as it applies to other groups of American citizenship.

We have waited long and patiently for Congress to act favorably upon the injunction relief legislation which we have sponsored.

Injunction Legislation Most Important

We are certain that in its present form, as reported to the Senate by the majority members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, it provides the minimum of relief which should be accorded us and that any impairment in its provisions will be considered by Labor as a failure on the part of Congress to redeem in full measure the political pledges made by both political parties.

Labor regards the injunction relief measure of transcendent legislative importance.

It is one legislative measure in which we are inexpressibly interested.

We firmly believe and expect that this measure will be favorably acted upon during the present session of Congress.

It is our purpose and our fixed determination to exercise the right of appeal guaranteed to all American citizens by calling upon the Members of Congress to give individual and collective support to Labor's Injunction Relief measure.

Congress Should Redeem Pledge

Therefore, in this Conference, composed of the representatives of National and International Unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and representing directly more than three million and indirectly additional millions of working people, we voice our earnest plea to the Members of Congress to redeem party pledges, to give Labor the relief which it honorably seeks, to complete a noble task through the enactment of injunction relief bill S. 935 and H. R. 8088, as speedily as possible and as an early date.

IMPORTANT LABOR MEASURES OUTLINED

We wish to stress our interest in legislation providing for:

The five-day work week for Government employes.

The legislative proposal providing for Federal aid to States adopting Old Age Pension legislation.

The King bill (S. 7) to deport certain alien seamen.

For the payment of the prevailing rate of wages by all contractors engaged in Government work.

For the development of a public works program which will serve to prevent a recurrence of unemployment widespread and distressing as it now exists.

The Davis-Kelly bill which provides for the regulation and control of the demoralized coal industry.

For the protection of the oil industry.

For the modification of the Volstead Act so as to provide for the manufacture of 2.75 alcoholic content beer.

For the enactment of taxation legislation providing for an increase in the higher income tax brackets, thus exacting inheritance tax provisions.

And for the enactment of legislation supported and sponsored by organizations representing Government employes.

APPEAL TO PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS

For the purpose of presenting this appeal of organized labor for economic and legislative relief to the Chief Executive of the United States and to the Members of Congress, we, the representatives of millions of working men and women, as herein referred to, have convened the A. F. of L. Executive Council and all National and International representatives of organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor in attendance at this conference call upon the President of the United States, the Presiding Officer of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives and present to each of them the recommendations and sincere request of this Conference as herein expressed.

In submitting this appeal to the Chief Executive of the Nation and to the Members of the Senate, through its Presiding Officer and to Members of the House of Representatives, through its Speaker, we hope and trust that the seriousness of the unemployment situation, the significance of our appeal for the enactment of remedial legislation and the constructive suggestions which we have offered will command their official and personal support.

ILLINOIS FAVORS BILLS FOR JOBLESS RELIEF

$18,875,000 Appropriated for Assistance of the Needy Unemployed.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 13.—The Illinois Legislature passed and Governor Emmerson approved five bills to provide immediate unemployment relief.

The bills authorize the issuance of $18,875,000 State tax anticipation notes, which it was said Chicago bankers would buy. The notes would be paid off either with a bond issue of $29,000,000 or an increase in the State tax rate next year.

The bill establishing the Emergency Relief Commission to administer the funds declares that "because of the degree of unemployment and the necessity for immediate assistance to the destitute without delay and particularly during the Winter months, an emergency exists and the act shall take effect upon its passage."

The fund, which is available until March 1, 1933, will be administered through existing relief machinery, or any other municipal corporation charged by law with the duty of poor relief and by other local relief agencies.

CAST-OFF CLOTHING ASKED FOR UNEMPLOYED WORKERS

Washington, Feb. 13. — President Hoover's Organization on Unemployment Relief stressed the necessity of increased effort to ask for discarded and new clothing for the jobless in a bulletin for national circulation.

The persistent refusal of American business men to employ the eight million jobless Americans has not only resulted in diminishing the supply of clothing available for relief, but is also forcing many communities that previously have not felt the need of supplying clothing to the unemployed to face the problem.

A number of organizations like the Salvation Army and the Volunteers of America, the bulletin points out, have regular departments for collecting discarded clothing, rehabilitating it and selling it at normal prices.

MEDICAL PAYMENT PLAN LIKE INSURANCE URGED

Patients Pay Three Billion Dollars Annually for Medical Care.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The heavy costs of medical care in the United States might be ameliorated through a system of regular payments like life insurance payments, according to a survey by the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care, of which Secretary Ray Wilbur of the Department of the Interior is chairman.

The report, which was submitted to the Committee by Miss Mary Dublin, points out that insurance companies estimate that $2,600,000,000 is invested annually in life insurance, which is comparable with the $3,000,000,000 spent annually for medical care, according to the estimates of the Committee.

The report declares that the insurance expenditure, "because of its orderly method of payment, is probably easier to bear than about the same amount spent annually for medical service."

The Committee on the Costs of Medical Care, Secretary Wilbur said, is sharing completion of an extensive five-year study of the problem of "the delivery of adequate, scientific medical care to all the people rich and poor, at a cost which may be readily met by them in their respective stations of life."

EMPLOYES' MEALS A FACTOR IN COMPENSATION PREMIUM

Washington, Feb. 13.—The Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia held that for the purpose of determining the premium due on a workmen's compensation policy the total remuneration of employes of a restaurant owner includes the value of meals furnished to the employes by the employer.

Although other elements of an employe's "keep" were not under consideration, the court pointed out that "wages," upon which benefits under the act are based, include the "reasonable value of board, rent, housing, lodging or similar advantage received from the employer."

A. F. of L. Conference Launches Organization Campaign with Ringing Declaration that Strong Trade Unions Are the Only Hope of the Workers

Washington, Feb. 13.—A ringing manifesto urging a nation-wide campaign to bring the unorganized workers into the trade union movement was issued by the American Federation of Labor Conference here consisting of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. and ninety-five representatives of the affiliated National and International Unions.

The manifesto points out that social reforms are largely futile unless backed up by strong labor organizations and stresses the necessity for Labor's sake of bringing all unorganized workers into the trade union fellowship.

The text of the manifesto adopted by the Labor Conference follows:

Regardless of whatever palliative, corrective, stabilizing and productive measures are resorted to, legislative, and economic, domestic and international, there remains the all-important problem of organizing the wage earners into the necessary, self-governing and intelligently directed, constructive trade unions, national and international in character, and under such principles and policies as will unite the forces of labor throughout our industrial and commercial life.

Effective Organization Necessary

Experience has demonstrated in economic and social theory and practice, have been attained and maintained only where there exists effective organization of wage earners.

It is equally self-evident that retrogression in the life and work of our people has been retarded by the degree of effective organization amongst wage earners.

It is likewise true that the progress of our people and their participation in whatever form of advances society has made has been realized to the extent that the great mass of workers have set forth their claims collectively.

Right to Work

It is almost universally recognized in recent years, with the development of large scale and mass production industries, that the consumptive power of our people must be balanced to provide home markets for our products and services, and that our productive organization must be so regulated as to give all who are willing and able to work opportunity to render useful and self-sustaining service.

These problems of balance involve both wage and salary earners, the length of work day and work week, needs and standards of living, and the varied possibilities of expanding demand for different articles.

Collective Action Required

It has been clearly demonstrated that these ends which involve balance between production, distribution and consumption can only be attained through the collective and cooperative action of all workers, whether of the wage or small salary income groups of our people.

The call of the hour, as at all times, is for effective organization of all wage earners into collective, self-controlled trade groups, as represented by trade unions.

Organized Workers Fix Labor Standards

Indeed it is frankly admitted on all sides that conditions of the unorganized and small salaried workers are wholly dependent upon standards fixed or maintained by the organized workers, and progress would be speeded many fold if the unorganized also became centers of constructive forces.

In this period of widespread need and national emergency it is of utmost importance that regardless of all other measures approved and policies adopted, that renewed efforts, enlarged activities, and greater concentration be directed in the stimulation, development and maintenance of an organizing campaign of unlimited scope.

Trade Union the Workers' Hope

The beginning of progress for workers is the trade union.

Their hope of representation in their industry is their trade union.

For redress of grievances and assurance of a square deal they must turn to their trade union.

For control over wages and hours they must rely upon their trade union.

For the presentation of their needs and problems within the industry, before legislative groups, and to the public, they must depend upon the trade union.

The union provides the agency and the method whereby workers may advance their economic and social welfare.

We need to carry the gospel of unionism to every producing worker, wage earner and salaried employe throughout the length and breadth of this country.

Organization Drive

To that end this conference calls on all national and international unions to renewed activity in the work of organizing the members of their respective trades and callings into their respective organizations, and that every possible consideration be given to plans and procedures that will facilitate such enlarged membership.

This conference further calls upon City Central Labor Unions, State Federations of Labor, and other representative organizations to aid and assist the said National and International Unions in this work.

Fellowship in Union Membership

We should carry to all wage earners the message of fellowship in union membership and activity for the best interests of workers, and to establish the rights and protection of their interests.

No other purpose has the same urgence as that of organizing workers, so that they may be in a position to help themselves and each other.

The hardships of the past three winters are incontrovertible arguments for extension of union membership and wider programs of action.

We call upon all workers not unionist to join in this campaign and we call upon every worker to join our cause. Those who are not with us are against us and against their own best interests.

JOBS FOR MILLION SOUGHT BY DRIVE

Four National Organizations Announce Campaign to Put Workers Back on Pay Rolls.

New York, Feb. 13.—Jobs for at least one million unemployed workers!

This is the slogan for the nation-wide campaign sponsored by the American Legion, the American Federation of Labor, the Association of National Advertisers, and the American Legion Auxiliary.

A joint statement by representatives of the four organizations issued February 15 as the date for opening the drive.

Woll Heads Labor Division

The Division of Labor has been organized through conferences with William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, and Matthew Woll as chairman of the division.

The Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, the National Catholic Welfare Council, the Central Conference of American Rabbis and a large number of fraternal organizations have pledged their assistance.

Every Citizen to Assist

A joint statement in behalf of the four organizations in charge of the jobfinding movement estimated that the organizations have more than 5,000,000 members and extend into nearly every community and accustomed to working together. The statement said in part:

"To the millions of women of America, to all who may have a job to give, to all those agencies that can make a job for a man or woman by clubbing together, to all who can point to a hidden job of work, we put in the hope and faith that every American will rise to the great need of our time."

BILL FOR PENSIONS TO AGED APPROVED

House Labor Committee Orders Favorable Report for Federal Aid to State Pension Systems.

Washington, Feb. 12.—The House Committee on Labor made a favorable report on the Bill-Connery old-age pension bill for Federal contributions of one-third of the pensions granted by the States having mandatory pension laws.

The bill was introduced by Senator Clarence C. Dill of the State of Washington in the Senate and by Representative William P. Connery, Jr., of Massachusetts in the House. Representative Connery is also chairman of the House Labor Committee.

Indorsed by A. F. of L.

The bill, which has the support of the American Federation of Labor, provides for the payment by the Secretary of Labor an Old Age Security Bureau, with an appropriation of $10,000,000 out of the Federal Treasury, to the apportioned among the States and territories to aid them in giving assistance to American citizens 65 years of age or more, subject to certain stipulations.

The proposed Bureau would not approve any plan submitted unless it is applicable to the whole or territory-wide.

In the use of the phrase "old age security" for "old age pension" the bill adopts the phraseology of the model State old age security bill endorsed by the 1931 convention of the American Federation of Labor.

65-Year Limit Too High

In fixing the pension system at 65 years, the bill is less liberal than the A. F. of L. bill, which set up 60 years. The measure will be made to amend the bill in accordance with the A. F. of L. policy.

In addition to the American Federation of Labor, the Dill-Connery bill has the support of the American Federation for Old Age Security, the Eagles, the Elks and other fraternal organizations.

PAINTERS GET 5-DAY WEEK

San Antonio, Tex., Feb. 12.—Business Agent Harry Carroll of the Painters' Local Union announced that a new agreement had been signed by all former employers and some new contractors providing for the five-day week.

AFL COUNCIL SUPPORTS FLYERS IN WAGE STRIKE

Green Says Federation Will Back Up Century Air Line Pilots to Maintain Wages and Improve Working Conditions.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor threw its strength behind 21 pilots of the Century Air Lines, radiating from Chicago, in their struggle to prevent wage cuts and to improve working conditions, declared William Green, president of the Federation.

"The members of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor," Green said, "are of the firm opinion that the air line pilots employed by the Century Air Lines were thoroughly justified in refusing to give service when the management of the company demanded a 40 per cent wage reduction.

"The support of the American Federation of Labor is unreservedly given to those members of the Air Line Pilots Association, who deserve the support of all classes of people in their efforts to maintain decent wages and decent conditions of employment.

Work Is Hazardous

"Employed as they are at hazardous work, assuming risks involving life and property, they deserve to be paid a decent salary and they deserve to be encouraged through the hope of promotion and steady employment

Wage Cut Indefensible

"The impetus not a 40 per cent reduction in wages upon a group of men whose responsibilities are great, who risk their lives in hazardous enterprise, is indefensible. It is clearly evident that such action must result in lowered morale and decreased efficiency. The creation of such a situation is bound to destroy public confidence in air line transportation.

Pilots Affiliated with A. F. of L.

"The Air Line Pilots Association is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. Such affiliation means improvement in service standards, an appreciation of responsibility on the part of pilots and the result of orderly procedure in the adjustment of disputes which may arise between the air pilots and the management of air lines

"The Air Line Pilots will be given the support of the American Federation of Labor in all their efforts to maintain decent wages, to promote safety in flying and to develop a standard of excellent service on the part of those who pilot airplanes."

Ormsbee Defends Pilots

Frank E. Ormsbee, official representative of the Air Line Pilots' Association, said:

"The pilots are primarily interested in safety. It is not their only concern, but their first concern. They have organized in an effort to insure that safety. Wage cuts and the pressure of the passengers who entrust their lives to the pilot every time they take passage in a plane. The pilots feel that, in view of these responsibilities, they should have something to say about the conditions under which they fly."

ORNBURN CONFIRMED FOR U. S. TARIFF BOARD

Washington, Feb. 13.—The Senate confirmed the appointment of I. M. Ornburn, president of the Makers' International Union of America, to be a member of the United States Tariff Commission. The confirmation of Ornburn's appointment was recommended by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor

WORKERS RESIST WAGE CUTS

Washington, Feb. 12.—The workers are not submitting tamely to wage cuts, according to information given out by Hugh L. Kerwin director of the Conciliation Service of the U. S. Department of Labor. Of 33 new labor disputes submitted to the Service during the last week, 14 were caused by wage cuts, actual and proposed, including five controversies over the prevailing wage rate.

TAX ON OIL IMPORTS URGED BY FREMMING

350,000 Jobless in Oil Industry; Oil Importers Impose Low Wages on Foreign Workers and Pay 400 Per Cent Dividends.

Washington, Feb. 13.—A tax on imported oil was urged before the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives by Harry C. Fremming, international president of the Oil Field, Gas Well and Refinery Workers of America, as necessary to increase the consumption of domestic oil and provide jobs for about 350,000 unemployed workers in the oil industry.

Importers Falsify Facts on Wages

He characterized as "a palpable misstatement of facts" the testimony of a representative of the importers that American workers are employed in producing the imported oil and that high wages are paid, declaring that the average wage paid by oil importers in their Venezuelan operations is about one-fifth the American scale, while only one American is employed there for every 100 natives.

In confirmation of his statement Fremming submitted a letter from the Pan-American Company stating that it employed 1,005 Americans in its foreign oil operations at an average wage of $238 a month, 916 natives at $74 a month, and 1,123 natives in other than oil work, such as clearing jungles and building roads.

Jobless Listen to Communists

"American patriotism is silenced in many of our oil producing communities," Fremming continued, "where workers are listening with active interest to the doctrines of Bolshevism and Communism, and clever and unscrupulous agitators emphasize to them the injustice of a economic system which dooms to starvation armies of American workers while a few great oil importing concerns or their subsidiaries are paying hundreds of millions of dollars yearly in dividends on rates sometimes reach 400 per cent a year.

Cheap Foreign Labor Benefits Rich Corporations

"These men are faced by a condition which no arguments can minimize. They know unemployment and poverty is prosperous, that they would be earning American wages, maintaining their families under normal American standards, if the industry in which they labor was not utterly demoralized by the imported products of cheap labor to the fabulous enrichment of a few wealthy corporations."

SPECIAL RELIEF PLANS FOR WHITE COLLAR IDLE

Washington, Feb. 13.—Special relief plans for jobless clerks, business men, professional persons and other "white collar" workers were made public by the President's Organization on Unemployment Relief.

"In many lines of white-collar employment, however, seasonal fluctuations in work is more regular than prevails in other wage-earning occupations," said Fred C. Croxton, assistant director of the President's Organization. "White-collar workers, as a result, often seek ways to adjust themselves quickly to new lines of employment. For these reasons, special difficulties are encountered both by the workers and those seeking to assist them during the period of depression when they are thrown out of work."

The statement suggested that "made work" or "relief work" projects for the white-collar unemployed may be built up in a community either by public or private financing.

Among the special work-creating projects suggested are: Traffic counts, studies of traffic accidents, compilation of a city directory where none exists, entertainment in city hospitals or asylums, surveys of parks, docks, markets, tenements, water supply or sanitary districts, checking on public school attendance, and other fields of work suitable for clerical or professional men or women.